December 16, 2016

Pamela Tames, P.E., Remedial Project Manager Emergency and Remedial Response Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Ms. Tames,

This letter is in response to your request for information relating to the Pierson's Creek Superfund Site. Your questions are shown in bold below, followed by our responses.

1) Provide any and all maps that identify the area where Pierson's Creek and its tributaries traverses Port Authority property, either over the surface, below ground and/or through covered culverts, including Newark Liberty International Airport and Port Newark.

Port Authority drainage utility records and survey drawings do not identify Pierson's Creek. To the best of our knowledge, the Port Authority has never surveyed any segment of Pierson's Creek.

Based on drawings provided to us by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority for unrelated work, we believe that Pierson's Creek enters two 60-inch diameter pipes north of the NJ Turnpike toll plaza, outside of Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) property. The drawings indicate that these two 60-inch pipes travel south under the toll plaza to a point near Port Street, and then turn east and run beneath the extreme northeastern corner of Airport property (see Exhibit A) and continue east beneath the NJ Turnpike. The pipes then turn south, running beneath the Turnpike, and discharge into an open ditch which flows beneath the Turnpike and discharges into the Port Newark Channel.

Please note that the drawings which indicate the location of Pierson's Creek are not the property of the Port Authority and the information has not been verified by the Port Authority. The above description of the location of Pierson's Creek, and the approximate location of the Creek indicated on Exhibit A, is our interpretation of drawings provided by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

2) Provide any and all sampling and test results taken by the Port Authority either in Pierson's Creek or in Port Newark, including but not limited to, the following

substances and include a map (or maps) showing the sampling and testing locations. Describe the methods used in collecting the samples.

To the best of our knowledge, the Port Authority has not performed any sampling in Pierson's Creek or its tributaries. Sediment sampling has been performed for various berths in Port Newark Channel in 2006, 2013-2014 and 2016. Most of the contaminants listed in the Request for Information, as well as many others, were included in these sample analyses.

The enclosed USB drive contains all sediment sampling data collected from Port Newark as well as sample location figures. Sampling work plans approved by the relevant regulatory authorities describing sampling methods are also included on the USB drive.

3) Identify any storm sewers, catch basins or drainage lagoons on Port Authority property that discharge into Pierson's Creek, including its tributaries.

There are no such structures on Port Authority property that discharge to Pierson's Creek or its tributaries. The majority of storm water from Newark Liberty International Airport drains into the "Peripheral Ditch" which encircles the Airport, runs beneath the Turnpike and discharges into Elizabeth Channel (see Exhibit A). The Peripheral Ditch originates on City on Newark property where it receives significant stormwater runoff. The City of Newark controls the pump station, downstream of the airport, where the Peripheral Ditch discharges into Elizabeth Channel.

Drainage from the north runway extensions enters a 68-inch diameter pipe which passes beneath the Turnpike into an open ditch and discharges into Port Newark (see Exhibit B). We believe, based on drawings provided to us by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, that this flow combines with flow from the two 60-inch diameter pipes from Pierson's Creek (described in (1) above) in the open ditch to discharge into Port Newark.

4) Were any hazardous substances, including, but not limited to, the substances listed in response to item (2) or identified in the responses to item (3), above, disposed of in or discharged to Pierson's Creek, including its tributaries?

As described above, there are no discharges from Port Authority property into Pierson's Creek or its tributaries. There have been no disposals of any substances into Pierson's Creek or its tributaries from Port Authority property.

- 5) Has the Port Authority sampled any berths in Port Newark for mercury and/or any of the chemicals listed in item (2) above?
 - a) If yes, please provide the concentrations of mercury and/or those of any of the chemicals listed in item (2) above that were found and show the sampling locations.

Yes, as described for #2 above, sampling has been performed in several berths in Port Newark. All sampling data as well as sampling location figures and work plans are provided on the enclosed USB drive. Please note that for some sampling events, composite samples were comprised of sediment from more than 1 berth, as described in sampling work plans.

Berths 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 of Port Newark were sampled in 2006. Mercury was detected in all composite samples, at a maximum concentration of 13.7 parts per million.

In 2013 and 2014, sediment sampling was performed in many berths in both Port Newark and Port Elizabeth. In Port Newark Channel specifically, the berths that were sampled include berths 8, 10, and 12, where mercury was detected at a maximum concentration of 6.9 parts per million. Analytical data for sampling performed in Elizabeth Channel and Newark Bay is also included on the enclosed USB drive. Please note that the approved sampling work plan (dated August 27, 2013) identifies sample locations in berths that ultimately were not sampled, or may have been sampled under a later sampling program. All available data has been provided on the enclosed USB drive.

Many berths in both Port Newark and Port Elizabeth were sampled in early 2016. In Port Newark Channel specifically, sampling was performed in Berths 14, 16, 18, 20, and 22-25. Mercury was detected in samples from all of these berths, at a maximum concentration of 6.63 parts per million. Analytical data for sampling performed in Elizabeth Channel and Newark Bay is also included on the enclosed USB drive.

Please refer to the sampling data on the enclosed USB drive for complete analytical results.

b) If any berths in Port Newark have since been dredged, please provide the amount of mercury and/or any of the chemicals listed in item (3) above, that was disposed of, and which berths (preferably shown on a map of Port Newark) were dredged?

As described above and on the enclosed USB drive, sampling was performed in berths 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 of Port Newark in 2006. Subsequently, berths 6, 8, and 10 were dredged in 2008-2011 for wharf reconstruction. The permit from NJDEP approving the dredging work was for a maximum total volume of 310,500 cubic yards of sediments and 27,000 cubic yards of rock for all berths. Records indicate that a total of 51,766 cubic yards was removed from berths 8 and 10 between 2008 and 2010, and a total of 41,920 cubic yards was removed from Berth 6 in 2011.

Following the 2013-2014 sampling described in 5(a) above, dredging in Port Newark Channel was performed in berths 8, 10, and 12 in 2015 for maintenance dredging. Records indicate that a total of 17,774 cubic yards was dredged from Berths 8 and 10, and a total of 5,546 cubic yards was dredged from Berth 12.

As described in 5(a) above, 2016 sampling in Port Newark Channel was performed in berths 14, 16, 18, 20, and 22-25. Berths 23 and 25 were subsequently dredged in the fall of 2016. A total of 16,046 cubic yards was removed from Berth 23 and a total of 9,172 cubic yards from Berth 25. Dredging of Berths 14 and 16 is planned for the coming months. The estimated volume of material planned for removal is 10,000 cubic yards for Berth 14 and 6,000 cubic yards for Berth 16. The additional berths in Port Newark Channel where dredging is planned for 2017 include Berth 18 (estimated volume for removal of 8,500 cubic yards); Berth 20 (estimated volume 12,500 cubic yards); and Berth 22 (estimated volume 20,600 cubic yards).

We do not have records regarding quantities of specific contaminants disposed. Figures showing the location of berths in Port Newark are included on the enclosed USB drive.

Please identify any leaks, spills, explosions, fires or other incidents of accidental material discharge that occurred at a Port Authority facility during which or as a result of which any hazardous substances, including, but not limited to, the substances listed in response to items (2), (3) or (4), were released into the storm drainage system or into Pierson's Creek, including its tributaries.

As described in item (3) above, there are no drainage systems that drain into Pierson's Creek or its tributaries. To the best of our knowledge, there have been no such incidents of release directly into Pierson's Creek.

Please provide a detailed description of any civil, criminal or administrative proceedings against the Port Authority for violations of any local, State or federal laws or regulations relating to water pollution or hazardous waste generation, storage, transport or disposal from the Port Authority facility into Pierson's Creek. Provide copies of all pleadings and depositions or other testimony given in these proceedings.

To the best of our knowledge, there have been no civil, criminal or administrative proceedings against the Port Authority for violations of any laws or regulations relating to water pollution or hazardous waste generation, storage, transport or disposal into Pierson's Creek.

8) Provide the name, address, telephone number, title and occupation of the person(s) answering this "Request for Information" and state whether such person(s) has personal knowledge of the responses. In addition, identify each person who assisted in any way in responding to the "Request for Information" and specify the question to which each person assisted in responding. Please include the names and addresses of former employees who were contacted to respond to any of the questions.

This response was prepared by: Dana Mecomber

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

Senior Environmental Coordinator, Office of Environmental and Energy Programs Port Authority of NY & NJ 4 World Trade Center, 15th Floor 150 Greenwich Street New York, NY 10007 (212) 435-4405

This person does not have personal knowledge of the responses.

The following additional people assisted in preparing this response to the Request for Information:

Brian McLaughlin (#1 and #3) Marc Helman (#2 and #5) Tiffany Chan (#4 and #6) Omar Choukeir (#5) Elizabeth Rogak (#7) Kenneth Tripaldi (#5) Edward Knoesel (#1 and #3) Bernice Malione (#3) Robert Pruno (#2 and #5) Dorian Bailey (#2 and #5)

Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions on this matter. I may be reached at (212) 435-4454 or <a href="mailto:bma

Sincerely,

Bernice Malione, Deputy Director

Office of Environmental and Energy Programs

Port Authority of NY & NJ

Surice Molione

copy:

Amelia Wagner, Assistant Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Elizabeth Rogak, Esq., PANYNJ

CERTIFICATION OF ANSWERS TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

State of New York :
County of New York:
I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document (response to EPA Request for Information) and all documents submitted herewith, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete, and that all documents submitted herewith are complete and authentic unless otherwise indicated. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. I am also aware that the Port Authority is under a continuing obligation to supplement its response to EPA's Request for information if any additional information relevant to the matters addressed in EPA's Request for information or the Port Authority's response thereto should become known or available to the Port Authority.
Bernice Waltone NAME (print or type)
Deputy Director, OEEP TITLE (print or type)
Bernie R- Mcelieno GONATURE
worn to before me this 19 day of <u>December</u> 2016.
Notary Public Signature
RISA A. RESNICK Notary Public, State of New York No. 02RE5075256 Qualified in New York County Complete Explication

EXHIBIT A



EXHIBIT B

